

COUNCIL ON HUMAN SERVICES

MINUTES

December 16, 2015

COUNCIL

Mark Anderson
Phyllis Hansell (via phone)
Alexa Heffernan (via phone)
Guy Richardson
Kim Spading (via phone)
Sam Wallace

EX-OFFICIO LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS

Representative Joel Fry (absent)
Representative Lisa Heddens (absent)
Senator Mark Segebart (absent)
Senator Amanda Ragan (present via phone)

STAFF

Chuck Palmer	Diane Stahle
Sally Titus	Deb Johnson
Nancy Freudenberg	Sandy Knudsen
Mikki Stier	Paige Thorson
Wendy Rickman	Liz Matney
Amy McCoy	

GUESTS

Kris Bell, Senate Democrat Caucus
Patty Funaro, Legislative Services Bureau
Rob Boshart, Cedar Rapids Gazette
Tom Fey, Iowa Podiatric Medical Society
RG Schwarm, Brown Winick
Jodi Tomlonovic, Family Planning Council of Iowa

CALL TO ORDER

Mark Anderson, Chair, called the Council meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

All Council members were present. All ex-officio legislative members were absent with the exception of Senator Ragan.

MEDICAID MODERNIZATION UPDATE

Diane Stahle, Special Assistant Attorney General, reported on two legal actions:

1) Administrative: three bidding organizations that were not selected as the Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) asked for a review of the decision. The case was presented to an administrative law judge, who will make a proposed decision, from there it can be appealed for a “director’s review” –and since Director Palmer is a participant in the process, the Governor appointed Department of Administrative Services Director Janet Phipps to hear any appeals.

2) The Iowa Hospital Association filed a lawsuit with the Polk County District Court asking for an injunction from the judge to stop the January 1, 2016, implementation of Medicaid Modernization.

Mikki Stier, Medicaid Director, reported:

- 1) Readiness Review has been completed focusing on network adequacy, long term care system supports, call centers and IT capability.
- 2) CMS (Centers for Medicaid Services) brought in staff last week to review these areas. And spent time with all four MCO’s and with Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) staff.

Director Palmer noted that the MCO’s continue to build their networks and are signing up providers every day. Palmer explained the “Safe Harbor” process, which extends provider reimbursement for 3 months for members and providers to give them additional time to make decisions as they work through the contracts.

Sally Titus, Deputy Director, updated the Council on the process staff used to draft amendments to rules. The Department was given emergency rule making ability and authority by the Legislature through the Appropriations Bill.

RULES

Nancy Freudenberg, Bureau of Policy Coordination, presented the following rules to Council.

N-1 Amendments to Chapters 73 and 88, Medicaid. First of two amendment packages that implements the Governor’s Medicaid Modernization Initiative

A motion was made by Wallace to approve and seconded by Richardson.
MOTION CARRIED WITH SPADING ABSTAINING.

N-2 Amendments to Chapters 36, 74, 75, 77, 78, 79, 81, 82, 83, 85, 90, and 92, Medicaid. Second of two rule amendment packages that implements the Governor's Medicaid Modernization Initiative.

A motion was made by Wallace to approve and seconded by Hansell.
MOTION CARRIED WITH SPADING ABSTAINING.

N-3 Amendments to Chapter 52, State Supplemental Assistance (SSA). Implements the January 1, 2016 increased needs allowance for two SSA categories: Residential Care Facility and Family Life Home Assistance. This rule is being adopted as a Double Emergency and will also be filed as regular rulemaking to seek public comment.

A motion was made by Richardson to approve and seconded by Wallace.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORT OF NOTICED ACTION

N-1. Amendments to Chapter 52, State Supplemental Assistance (SSA). Modernization Initiative. Implements the January 1, 2016 increased needs allowance for two SSA categories: Residential Care Facility and Family Life Home Assistance. This rule is being adopted as a Double Emergency and will also be filed as regular rulemaking to seek public comment.

A motion was made by Heffernan and seconded by Wallace.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Wallace to approve the minutes of November 10, 2015 and seconded by Hansell. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council on Human Services will be Wednesday, January 13, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Submitted by,

Sandy Knudsen
Recording Secretary